

Customer No. 24498
Attorney Docket No. PF020113
Final Office Action Date: 11/19/2009

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-16 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 14, 15 and 16 have been amended. Claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

EXAMINER'S RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS:

Applicant notes that the Examiner's Response on page 7 of the Office action do not appear to respond to the Applicant's most recent arguments filed on August 26, 2009 but to the arguments filed on April 30, 2009.

Nevertheless, Applicant has now made further amendments to the independent claims and respectfully asserts that the cited prior art fail to disclose or suggest the invention as presently claimed.

§103 REJECTIONS

Claims 1 and 3-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 00/18066 to Bender et al. (hereinafter Bender) in view of US 2005/0157732 to Joy et al. (hereinafter Joy) and the admitted prior art ("APA") as disclosed by the Applicant in the specification FIG. 1, page 1, lines 12-22. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In a continued effort to further prosecution, Applicant has amended the independent claims 1, 14-16 to recite, *inter alia*: "wherein the bridge device associates twice with the access point, once for each of said MAC addresses ..." This amendment is supported by the specification as filed, at least on page 4, lines 10-23.

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Applicant respectfully asserts that the combination of Bender, Joy and/or APA fail to disclose or suggest at least separately registering to the wireless access point with their respective MAC addresses, the device and the bridge device as wireless devices on the wireless network, wherein the bridge device associates twice with the access point, once for each of said MAC addresses so that said wireless devices connected to said wireless network appear as wireless stations to the access point, essentially as claimed in independent claims 1, 14, 15 and 16.

Neither Bender, the APA or Joy disclose or suggest that the device and the bridge device are separately registered to the wireless access point with their respective MAC addresses as wireless devices on the wireless network, wherein the bridge device associates twice with the access point, once for each of said MAC addresses, essentially as claimed in claims 1, 14, 15 and 16. Bender is silent with respect to any separate registration process of a device and a bridge device. In Bender, at most, only its alleged 'bridge device' (the wireless modem 42) is registered as a wireless device to the network unit 58. The wireless link of Bender is simply a point to point wireless link. The device 40 is recorded to the access point with an IP address and hardware address. Bender's device 40 is not registered as a wireless device to a wireless access point. Moreover, Bender fails to make any mention of wherein a bridge device associates twice with a wireless access point, once for each of the MAC addresses.

The Applicant notes that the registration of a device to an access point is distinguishable with recording by obtaining an IP address. What Bender in fact, teaches is that the wireless modem 42 and the terminal equipment 40 are **recorded** to the access point (58, 60) with their IP and hardware addresses. Insofar as any "registration" is

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concerned, 42 and 40 are registered at Bender's 'access point' as **network** devices that are addressable at their respective addresses.

To elaborate, it is emphasized that the equipment unit 40 of Bender is not registered as a wireless device at the access point; instead it is recorded at the access point, as being **addressable through the wireless modem device** through the point to point wireless link 56. This is different from, and does not disclose or suggest, being **addressable as a wireless device on a wireless network**, as presently claimed.

Indeed, the alleged 'bridge device' of Bender (wireless modem 42) does not have the structure to perform the registration of a 'device' (terminal equipment unit 40) and itself as wireless devices on the wireless network to the access point. On page 7, Bender only indicates that the wireless modem 42 comprises a transceiver 46 that further comprises a wireless link communication module.

However, in the present specification it is indicated that some adaptation is necessary in a bridge device to support the registration method of the claimed embodiment. Clearly, the bridge device needs to manage multiple wireless connections concurrently; which is detailed in the present specification on pages 4-7.

In contrast, the transceiver of Bender does not and cannot perform registration of the first terminal equipment unit 40 and the wireless modem 42 as **wireless devices on a wireless network**.

The APA and Joy, either individually or in any combination, fail to cure the deficiencies of Bender.

Therefore, claims 1, 14, 15 and 16 are patentable in view of Bender in view of Joy and/or the APA. Claims 3-13 depend from and include all the limitations of claim 1 and

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are thus believed to be allowable as well. Withdrawal of the 103(a) rejection in view of

Bender, Joy and the APA is respectfully requested.

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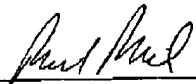
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of the claims set forth in the Final Office Action of November 19, 2009 be withdrawn, that pending Claims 1 and 3-16 be allowed, and that the case proceed to early issuance of Letters Patent in due course.

In the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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